

START YOUR NEW YEAR RIGHT !! AT COOK CHEVROLET



1999 EDDIE BAUER EXPLORER - local, one owner trade-in

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2002 S-10 BLAZER LS pkg - AT-6 - only 16K miles



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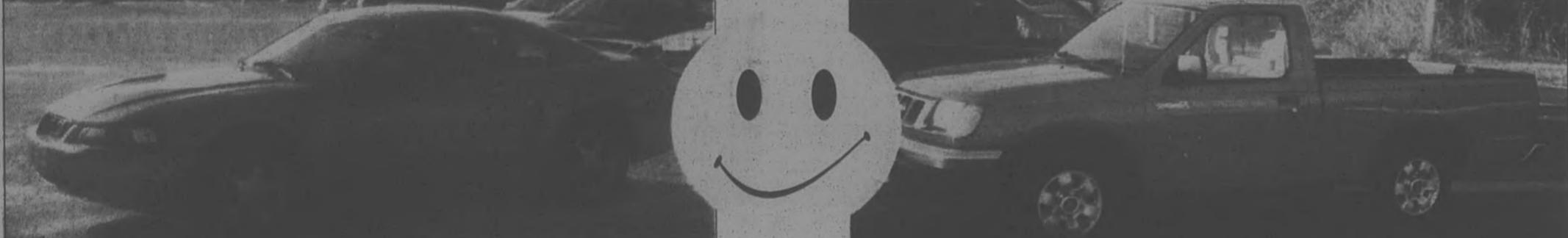
2000 FORD EXPEDITION XLT - 3rd seat - rear air - p-w - tilt - cruise



2001 CHEV EX CAB - 4 X 2 AT-8 - only 19K miles - like new

2002 2500 CHEV 2500HD - crew cab-AT-8 4X2 - must see

2002 VW BEETLE - AT - leather - sunroof - only 14,000 miles



2002 MUSTANG - pw & l, tile, cruise, low mileage

1998 NISSAN - reg cab - AT-4



1999 FORD EXPLORER XLS - p w & locks - tilt-cruise - AM/FMCD player

2001 CHEV PICK UP LS - reg cab - 4X2 - sharp - one owner - AT-8

2000 CHEV. MALIBU LS - local trade - leather - sun roof - loaded



2001 FORD 4 X 2 - super crew - leather - loaded - one owner

1999 FORD EXPLORER XLS - P W & L - tilt- cruise, AM-FM CD player



1990 FORD BRONCO - Eddie Bauer - hunter special

2000 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - Signature Series - one owner - like new - MUST SEE

2000 F-250 SUPER CAB XLT 2w drive - v-10 automatic - local trade

**YOU KNOW THAT A COOK DEAL IS A GOOD DEAL -
ALWAYS HAS BEEN - COME SEE US!
FAIR PRICES • TOP NOTCH SERVICE • QUALITY VEHICLES
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Tia Sherisse
Kelley recently
celebrated her
birthday

INSIDE
Elba Public
Library offers
after school
program

INSIDE
Kinston Athletic
Club held its
Miss Christmas
Pageant recently

The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 33

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 30, 2003

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

During Coffee County Commission meeting

Resident calls for full-time commissioners

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission meeting Monday, Jan. 27, was relatively short; however, those in attendance got quite a show as one county resident's remarks stirred some difference of opinions among the commissioners.

John B. Harris addressed the commission Monday morning and quickly let it be known that he believes the county should be represented by three full-time commissioners instead of seven part-timers.

Harris lives in the district represented by Commissioner Berneet Brooks, and he said the county needs commissioners who can be reached everyday by the residents. Instead, he said he feels as though the burden of dealing with county problems is left up to county engineer Randy Tindell, who is in the office everyday.

As Harris addressed the commission, Brooks asked him if he

had ever tried to call him concerning issues. Harris said he had not because he felt as though he would not get him.

To this, Brooks invited Harris to try and call him next time.

"I might surprise you," Brooks said.

Harris also questioned how the districts are divided within the county, and Brooks explained the division was necessary following the ruling of the lawsuit Dillard vs. Crenshaw in which the justice department said minorities had the right to have districts split in a fashion to allow the minority to have a 65 percent majority in one district.

Brooks said the population of blacks in Coffee County called for a division of the districts to allow a minority district on the office everyday.

As Harris concluded his remarks, Commissioner Tom Grimsley said he agreed wholeheartedly with Harris concerning the full-time commissioners.

"I think we need three full-time commissioners and a full-time elected chairman," Grimsley said.

His remarks were echoed by Commissioner Doug Dalrymple who said he too feels the county would be better served by three full-time commissioners.

Before the meeting concluded, it became evident that Brooks had taken offense to the morning's remarks as he insulted another commissioner may have had something to do with "Farris' address."

"For a commissioner to sit up here and prompt someone to come here and do this, I think this is unprofessional," he said.

On a positive note, Commission Chairman Robert Stephens discussed a few good things involving the county.

"We're in good financial shape," he said.

Stephens commended the

Please See CCC, Page 3

Elba COC looking to make move in near future

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development office has been marked for redevelopment for quite some time, and Whitworth said the work is finally coming together to get these things done.

With the rehabilitation project of the levee underway, the state recently acquired several homes that were located too close to the levee and marked for removal. One such home, acquired by the state, was given to the City of Elba with the understanding it would be moved from that location. According to Kaye Whitworth, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development office, that is when the idea to create a permanent home for the dual office was born.

"Mayor James Grimes thought this home would be a wonderful site for the chamber and economic development office," she said. "Our project began at that point."

Of course, the first question to be answered was where to move the home, and Whitworth said the most obvious place was an area of the city in which plans were already underway to move and this too will one day.

She said the idea with the Folsom home is to create a museum out of the former governor's home by restoring the inside and outside of the home and developing an heirloom garden with fencing around it. As for the jail, she said the project is still underway and this too will one day.

"We are going to restore the chamber/economic development home as antique looking as possible," Whitworth said. "We certainly feel it will be an asset to our office to be located in this section of town especially with the Folsom home and jail projects ongoing."

"We will gladly accept any antique donations from local citizens to spruce up the home," she said. "And, we would love to have the help of local garden clubs, etc. with the landscaping around the home."

At this point, the brick work around the house has been completed, and Whitworth said the next project will be to install white siding on the house accented with black shutters. As for the inside of the home, she said she and assistant chamber director Lisa Hanchey will each have an office. There will also be a large conference room and kitchen area inside the home.

"I feel as if this home will not

only benefit the chamber and economic development offices,

but it will be a building to benefit the whole community," Whitworth said. "With the large conference room and kitchen area, this building could be an ideal spot to host business and social events."

At this point, Whitworth said the plans are to complete the renovations by late Spring or early Summer; however, she said "that is not a definite time frame. Any person or group interested in volunteering to help with the renovations or to donate an antique for the office, please contact the Elba Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.

Area Happenings

THE NEW BROCKTON TOWN COUNCIL will hold its regular monthly meeting, Monday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at New Brockton Town Hall. The water board will hold its meeting ahead of the council at 5:30 p.m. at the same location.

COTTER COUNTY LAKE will open for the season on Saturday, Feb. 8.

NOTICE
Revenue Commissioner
Rouine Burns reminds
Coffee County property
owners that the deadline to
pay property taxes without
a penalty is Friday, Jan. 31
(TOMORROW).



ARCTIC BLAST FREEZES COFFEE COUNTY...Residents of Elba and Coffee County joined many others across the southeast portion of the United States late last week in trying to stay warm as the area weathered extremely cold temperatures from an Arctic blast. Area residents were awakened to the coldest temperatures from the blast Friday morning, Jan. 24, as thermometers registered in the low teens. Although the unseasonably cold temperatures made it hard to stay warm, it did allow for the creation of some beautiful ice sculptures. The fountain in the courtyard at the Coffee County Courthouse in Elba was no exception as the water flowing through the well froze to create a fountain of hanging icicles. The above picture was taken at approximately 7 a.m. last Friday morning as the clock outside The Peoples Bank in Elba registered the temperature at 15 degrees, and although last week's weather conditions reminded area resident that it does indeed get cold in the south occasionally, temperatures have slowly been returning to the norm this week.

Elba's Workman's Comp insurance increases drastically

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Efforts to find an alternate insurer failed, according to the mayor.

City employees experienced an unusually high claims year during 2002, which is the cause of the big increase. There were three claims of over \$30,000 according to City Clerk Wayne Grantham. This experience rate will reflect on the City's expense record for three years.

Permanent injury expenses continue to impact the experience rate used by the insurance companies to determine annual rates. Council members accepted the increase as something they had to have and vowed to launch and maintain an intense safety campaign to prevent

injuries and thus expensive Workman's Comp expenses.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth reported to the council that the new computers have been installed, but complete networking is still underway. He received permission from the council to get prices on the new software needed to record and integrate all departmental records.

Grimes reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has completed its audit of the flood buyout program. The city is expecting a written report on the findings.

Please See CITY, Page 3



TOPS IN NATION...The Coffee County 4-H Meats Judging Team placed 1st at the National contest held in Denver, Colo. on January 11th. Shown from left are Stan Windham, County Agent; Carrie Edwards, Enterprise; John Sawyer, New Brockton; Heather Carroll, New Brockton; Ann Schieffer, New Brockton; and Tom Bonner, Auburn University. The top five teams at the contest were Alabama, Wisconsin, Indiana, Colorado, and Minnesota. Ranking individually, overall winners were Carrie Edwards first place, Heather Carroll second place, and Ann Schieffer third place.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

There was a positive murmur from state and City of Elba officials last week as the U.S. Senate finally passed their massive appropriations bill. The Senate has a whole bunch of Alabama goodies in its version bill that passed last week. Now fingers are crossed while the Senate and House work out a compromise between differing portions of their respective versions of the long overdue appropriation bills. Of particular interest to Elba officials is the \$750,000 earmarked for the local diagnostic lab. While there is a state bond issue to pay the \$1 million for the new building, equipment to dispose of diseased animal remains was being sought. The state-of-the-art digester which will be housed within the federal building will be installed in its own special room at the lab will cut all the bad germs, etc. and render whatever is left safe and completely harmless. There has been a lot of time and work put into this project by a surprising number of people. We are now about to see their efforts pay off when this new building is built and all the necessary equipment is available to allow the professionals to "do their thing."

February 2nd is Groundhog Day. The well known weather prognosticator is expected to give his learned opinion on six more weeks of cold weather or not. It is done simply by determining if he spies his pudgy image (i.e. if the sun is shining) then we are in for some more cold weather. But then if the ol' groundhog is stillibernating on February 2nd, we are supposed to be in for some warm weather sooner rather than later.

Everett says conclusion of more revenue under peanut program underscores value of bill's reforms

A study released last month by a peanut industry research group concluding that the new peanut program will generate more revenue than the previous program underscores the value of the reforms that Congress undertook in the 2002 Farm Bill, Congressman Everett Rehbein said.

Congressman Everett, a member of House Agriculture Committee and a co-author of the 2002 Farm Bill, said the study by the National Center for Peanut Competitiveness supports the Farm Bill's reforms aimed at the Southeast peanut industry.

"During the writing of the new Farm Bill and peanut program," Everett said, "it was our intent to devise a new payment

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of January 20, 2003, through January 26, 2003. They were: Joshua Burke, Mirinda Hodge, Johnnie Cotter, Annie Boswell, Katherine Booth, Kelly Johnson, Joshua Burke, Mirinda Hodge, Lorene Cole, Tiffany Campbell, Mary Shiver, Ray Sawyers, JaShawn Hammonds, Johnnie Cotter, Patricia Clark, John Waters, Katie Stackhouse, David Hudson, Ethel Johnson, Linda Helton, Ethel Johnson, Betty Burks, Steve Petty and Linda Helton.

Weddings and More
Inventory Reduction Sale
All Floral Arrangements & Accessories
Sale Begins Jan. 31st
Monday-Saturday • 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
2748 Hickman Ave., Elba • 897-5033
(8th House on Right Past School Entrance - Look for Sign)
Specialty Cakes • Wedding Consultant • Wilton Dealer

NOTE OF THANKS
There are no words to express our thanks to all those who have helped during this time - Five Star, Zion Chapel, Hamilton Crossroads fire departments and all those who gave so generously.
We thank you all from our hearts for your prayers and encouraging words.
Lon and Diane Jones

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 Months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$17 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

Everett appointed chair of strategic forces subcommittee

U.S. Representative Terry Everett, R-Alabama, has been appointed chair of the newly-created House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces. As a result, Everett becomes the first Alabamian in 15 years to chair a subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee.

"It is gratifying to be able to put my seniority to work for the people of Southeast Alabama and the nation," Congressman Everett

said after learning of his appointment.

Incoming House Armed Services Committee Chair Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-CA, gave his approval of Congressman Everett's selection to head the new subcommittee.

"I've had the pleasure of working with Terry on the House Armed Services Committee for a decade now and his grasp of military issues combined with an unwavering support for our men

and women in uniform make him a natural choice to head the new Strategic Forces subcommittee," Hunter observed.

"Terry has also been stalwart in his support of a robust ballistic missile defense to ensure that America is protected from existing and emerging threats. I am confident that he will bring the right vision and focus to the subcommittee in helping to fruition."

The War on Terrorism, Saddam Hussein's Iraq, and the renewed tension on the Korean peninsula present monumental challenges for our military, including the ability to defend our nation from ballistic missile attack. Everett's new subcommittee will be directly involved.

"As chair of the new Strategic Forces subcommittee," Everett commented, "I'll oversee our ballistic missile defense and military space programs as well as our military's ability to launch strikes outside our country and respond to threats. This subcommittee will be responsible for shepherding a \$45 billion budget for research, development, and procurement annually."

"America's reliance on high tech defensive weapons is increasing and Southeast Alabama is already contributing through the

Theatre High Altitude Air Defense program (THAAD)," Everett said. "Lockheed Martin in Pike County is preparing to begin production of this vital anti-ballistic defense system in the coming year."

"My subcommittee will have jurisdiction over the THAAD anti-ballistic missile system as well as the Army's missile defense component at Huntsville," Everett added. "The chairmanship should be beneficial for our state."

Everett is the sixth most senior member of the House Armed Services Committee in the 108th Congress, an important weight to Southeast Alabama which is home to Maxwell-Gunter and Fort Rucker military bases with over a \$2 billion annual economic impact, and with the approximately 3,500 defense contractor jobs scattered from Talladega to Dothan.

"Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery and the U.S. Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker are vital to our national defense and our local economy," Everett said. "As subcommittee chairman, I will have a greater voice to make sure these bases remain integrated in our national defense structure, particularly with another base closure round planned for 2005."

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: three for speeding, one for failure to appear, one for criminal mischief, three for domestic violence, one harassing communication, two for possession of marijuana, three for possession of drug paraphernalia, two for possession of a controlled substance, and one for possession of a controlled substance.

The following arrests were made: two arrests on warrants, two for domestic violence, one for stalking, one for failure to appear, one for criminal mischief, three for driving under the influence, one for resisting arrest, one for possession of drug paraphernalia and one for possession of a controlled substance.

The new peanut program removed those threats, providing a more even playing field for our Southeast peanut industry.

Congressman Everett observed that while the new farm bill is a sound one for the peanut industry, the transition to the new peanut program has not been an easy one for all growers this year.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, investigated the following incidents: three for theft of property, one shooting into an occupied vehicle, two for criminal mischief, three for domestic violence, one harassing communication, two for possession of marijuana, three for possession of drug paraphernalia, two for possession of a controlled substance, and one for possession of a controlled substance.

On Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2003, the following arrests were made: two arrests on warrants, two for domestic violence, one for stalking, one for failure to appear, one for criminal mischief, three for driving under the influence, one for resisting arrest, one for possession of drug paraphernalia and one for possession of a controlled substance.

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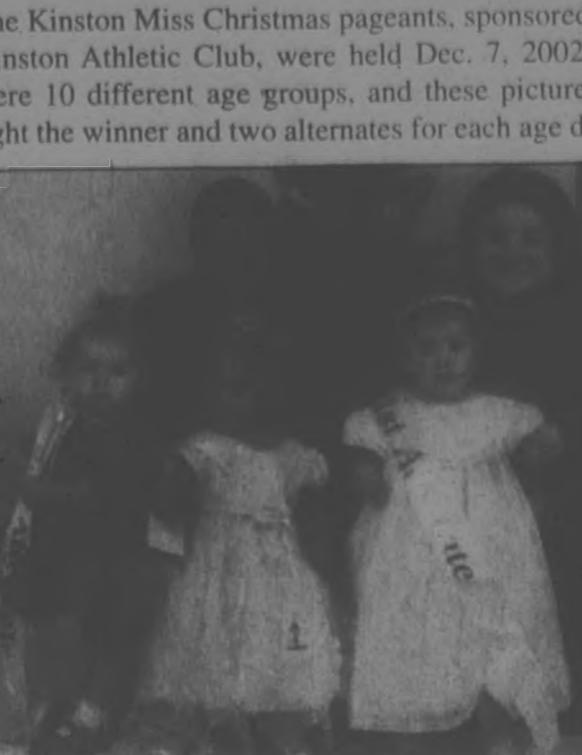
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Kinston Athletic Club presents the 2002 Miss Christmas pageant winners



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 19-35 MONTHS...Emma Reid, Queen; Katelyn Johnson, First Alternate; Regan Witherington, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 12-18 MONTHS...Tayana Henderson, Queen; Regan Hawthorne, First Alternate; Emma Dorsey, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 0-11 MONTHS...Jillian Jones, Queen; Baylie Perdue, First Alternate; Landra Free, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 7-8 YEARS...Madison Weeks, Queen; Arissa Davis, First Alternate; Gabby Grace, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 3-4 YEARS...Linsey Smithart, Queen; Alison Bailey, First Alternate; Allie Williams, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 5-6 YEARS...Cassidy Johnson, Queen; Jordan McInnis, First Alternate; Callie Weeks, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 9-10 YEARS...Jennifer Whatley, Queen; Katie Ward, First Alternate; Katelyn Hataway, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 12-14 YEARS...Nicole Boswell, Queen; Monica Wilford, First Alternate; Lauren McClung, Second Alternate.



KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 15-16 YEARS...Beth Muldowney, Queen; Britni Cosby, First Alternate; Tiffany Wilson, Second Alternate.

19th Annual Homecoming at
LOVE'S WAY CHURCH
Sunday • February 2, 2003
Morning Worship • 10:45 a.m. • John Lanier, Guest Speaker
Lunch in Fellowship Hall
Afternoon Service • 1:30 p.m. • The Dixie Melody Boys



John Lanier
19305 Hwy 134 West (Damascus Rd.) • Enterprise
1/4 mile outside Boll Weevil Circle on Hwy 134 West next to Covington Electric
For more information call 598-0856

SUPPORT
YOUR
YOUTH,
EDUCATION
&
LOCAL
SCHOOLS

KINSTON MISS CHRISTMAS 17-18 YEARS...Kala Anderson, Queen; Stacy Reeves, First Alternate; Jessica Gent, Second Alternate.

LIFESTYLES



Area SAR & DAR to hold memorial marker dedication February 8

Dedication of a Veterans Administration memorial marker in the Covington County Carter Cemetery where Revolutionary War veteran William Carter is buried has been scheduled to start at 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 8.

Bruce H. Taylor, president, Wiregrass Chapter, Alabama Society, Sons of the American Revolution, said members of the local patriotic group, descendants of patriot Carter and area members of the Daughters of the American Revolution will conduct the event.

Mrs. Nancy Brunson, wife of

Charles E. Dye, chapter ser-

geant-at-arms, has made

arrangements for a reception to be held in the Cold Water Congregational Church hall after the ceremony. Dye has also prepared map directions to the site and signs to direct visitors to the cemetery.

For more information, telephone Taylor at 347-8736, Wallace at 347-0661 or Kemp at 308-2391.

Miss Jack Sweetheart

Pageant planned for February 8

The "Miss Jack Sweetheart Pageant" will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2003, at 5:00 p.m. at the Zion Chapel High School Auditorium. There will be a total of 8 categories for ages 0-12th grade. The pageant is open to any girls in the surrounding area. A practice will be held Thursday, February 6, 2003 at the auditorium. The entry fee is \$20.00 and must be submitted at or before the practice. For more details call Jack in a Box Daycare at 897-1553.

David Boutwell recently receives promotion

Raymond J. Harbert, Harbert Management Corporation chairman and chief executive officer, announces the promotion of David A. Boutwell to executive vice president and chief administrative officer.

Most recently, Mr. Boutwell served as vice president and controller for Harbert Management Corporation. The promotion reflects David's role as the firm's chief accounting officer combined with his responsibilities in risk management, due diligence, regulatory compliance, and the oversight of Harbert's communications and facilities management requirements.

Twentieth Century Study Club holds January meeting

The monthly meeting of the Twentieth Century Study Club was held January 9th at the Elba Public Library. Mrs. Carolyn Shively was hostess for the evening.

The program was given by club president, Judy Eastburn. Mrs. Eastburn, leader of the TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Program in Enterprise, informed the members of the opportunity to join a group of nutrition, weight, exercise and health conscious women.

ESJC offers Introductory Sign Language Class

Enterprise State Junior

College's offers Introductory

Sign Language this spring. This

workshop will teach you basic

sign language skills which can

be used to communicate with

hearing impaired children

and/or adults. American Sign

Language (ASL) and deaf

awareness topics will also be

presented. A textbook costing

approximately \$35.00 must be

purchased at the first class.

There is a \$40.00 fee for this

course, and the registration

deadline is February 13. The

workshop will be held on

Thursday, February 20-April

17 (excluding March 27), 6:00-

8:00 p.m. For more information

call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234.

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Nicholas Johnson celebrates fourth birthday January 15

Nicholas Johnson, son of Jeff

and Vicki Johnson of Elba, celebrated his fourth birthday on January 15, with a Nascar Racing party. Nicholas is the grandson of Doil and Annie Mae Johnson, Billy and Janet Berry all of Elba and Virginia and Dan Simmons of Enterprise.

Nicholas Johnson son of Jeff

and Vicki Johnson of Elba, cele-

brated his fourth birthday on

January 15, with a Nascar

Racing party. Nicholas is the

grandson of Doil and Annie Mae

Johnson, Billy and Janet Berry

all of Elba and Virginia and Dan

Simmons of Enterprise.

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SPORTS

Views from...

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

It is good for the girls and great for Dad's checklist that Melissa and Melanie can share their clothes. However, lately it seems like the last one out of the house must be getting the better end of the deal since when they get home in the afternoon there is always fussing about what one or the other wore to school that day. One day last week one was fussing about the other wearing a certain jacket, while the one doing the fussing had a on a pullover that was a Christmas present for the other. Maybe we should knock down a wall and have just one really big closet.

SPORTING AROUND THE AREA...

*** The Elba Tigers had to settle for second place in the area last week after being blown out 102-73 by Abbeville in the area finale for both teams. The Tigers had clinched second place earlier in the week with a big win over Straughn and had a chance to gain a share of the title with an upset win against the second-ranked Yellow Jackets, but for the second time this season the Jacksons scored over 100 points against Elba, and there can be no doubt Abbeville is the class of the area. One bright spot in the loss is Andrew Anderson, a fourth quarter scoring explosion by Kyle English, a senior, scored 15 points in the final minutes of the game to give the Tigers something to cheer about, and continued to be one of the top three-point shooters in South Alabama as he drained three from behind the arc during the late scoring spurt. Elba did post a 2-2 area mark and moved its record to 7-9 with last week's action, which isn't bad when you think back and realize that the Tigers were 1-6 before the new year.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers pushed their record to 8-7 last week and also placed second in the area after failing to Abbeville. The Lady Tigers staged one of the wildest comebacks in recent memory when they outscored Straughn 16-2 over a three-minute span to pull out a wild 36-30 win that gave Elba second place in the area. The Elba girls trailed 28-20 with three minutes left, but Ayonna Proctor hit three straight three-pointers to give the Lady Tigers a 29-28 lead, and from there Elba pulled away for the win. The Lady Tigers live and die with the three-point shot, and while they were already on life support before the tip-off against Abbeville, they did little to pump any life into their upset effort as they connected on only 3 of 29 shots from behind the arc. Elba hit only 15 three point tries in the first half and then connected on only 1 of 14 three pointers in the second half, which won't lead to many wins no matter the competition.

*** The area tournaments are right around the corner and for some teams in the county the upcoming post-season party should provide added excitement. Down in Kinston, the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs both have a chance to earn a share of the area title with wins this week against Abbeville. The Bulldogs have caught fire late in the season and may very well have the best team in the area, while the Lady Bulldogs have proven they can win on any given night and have a solid chance at making it to their second straight sub-regional performance. It will take an upset or two for the New Brockton Gamecocks or Lady Gamecocks to make it out of the area; However, the Gamecocks proved in a win at Elba two weeks ago that they can win on the road, and the Lady Gamecocks are always a threat. They look up at Zion Chapel are probably just glad the season is about over.

*** Baseball and softball tryouts are underway all across the state, and here in Coffee County it looks like another exciting season for all the schools in both sports. Elba has its' entire team back from last season in baseball and should be a contender, while the Lady Tigers should be a team to watch as they look to make a move in fast-pitch softball. Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel all have winning programs and should be just as strong as ever, while over in softball Kinston and New Brockton should be strong, and Zion Chapel may be better than many think as they jump into the fast-pitch wars. Ready or not, the round ball is about to change its appearance.

*** I haven't had a chance to watch many college basketball games on TV this season, but did get to watch parts of Alabama's last three games and can't figure out how a team can go from number one to number none in such a short period of time. The Crimson Tide got off to a fast start and looked like a contender after four weeks of play, but now have been exposed as nothing more than a pretender and don't even look like a post-season team. Unless something happens in a hurry the Alabama basketball team might be headed for its biggest disaster ever.

*** In closing...Andalusia High School is expected to name its new football coach this week, while Geneva and Luverne have yet to name a coach to take over their programs. It will be hard to replace Leavy Boutwell at Geneva and Butch Norman at Luverne, but I know both schools will move on and find someone that will keep the tradition alive. It has been a busy off-season for area high school football coaches, and I know that the fans are ready to see just who will lead their programs in years to come.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Dennis Lawford, DBA - Elba Texaco Food Mart, Inc., have made application to the City of Elba for a **Retail Beer and Retail Table Wine** off premises consumption at this location, 632 North Claxton Ave., Elba, Alabama.

A public hearing will be held by the City Council in their regular meeting in the Council Chamber in City Hall at 5:30 p.m., Monday, February 10, 2003.

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Clinch second place in area standings

Tigers stroll past Straughn 65-42

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The Elba Tigers clinched second place in the area standings last Tuesday night with a 65-42 win over the Straughn Tigers, in Elba.

The win improved Elba's record to 6-8, 2-1 in the area, while Straughn slipped to 9-12, 0-4 with the loss.

Kyle English drilled an early three-pointer to lead the Tigers jump out to a 5-0 lead, only to see Straughn stage a rally and catch the Tigers at 5-5 with 5:03 remaining in the opening quarter. English scored seven straight points to spark a 9-0 Elba run midway through the stanza as the Tigers regained command at 14-5, and Marchello Reed took charge late inside to spark the Tigers to a 20-8 lead after one quarter of play.

Elba's LaRay Williams scored on a driving lay-up early in the second quarter as the Tigers' lead grew to 24-11. However, the pace slowed on both ends of the court late in the half, and even though Elba aged to add only four points from the free-throw line over the final four minutes of the stanza, the Tigers remained in command and carried a 29-17 lead into the half.

Straughn cut the Elba lead to 29-20 early in the third quarter on a long three-pointer, but the Tigers quickly answered and led by the play of Marcus Henderson and Mason Gulley. Elba went on a 10-2 run to take a 39-22 advantage with 5:04 left in the quarter. The Tigers lead grew to 43-24 with 3:30 remaining on a basket by Brandon Kelley; however, the Tigers failed to score again in the stanza, while the Lady Bulldogs had carried a 29-17 lead into the half.

Straughn cut the Elba lead to 29-20 early in the third quarter on a long three-pointer, but the Tigers quickly answered and led by the play of Marcus Henderson and Mason Gulley. Elba went on a 10-2 run to take a 39-22 advantage with 5:04 left in the quarter. The Tigers lead grew to 43-24 with 3:30 remaining on a basket by Brandon Kelley; however, the Tigers failed to score again in the stanza, while the Lady Bulldogs had carried a 29-17 lead into the half.

The Elba B team Tigers continued their recent struggles with a 33-25 loss to the Straughn Tigers. Stefani Burks and Ron Hill both scored 7 points to lead Elba, while Sexton scored 7 points for Straughn.

Straughn (33): Cotton, 6; Hammett, 2; Bass, 6; Armstrong, 6; Rabree, 6; Sexton, 7.

Elba (25): Skinner, 2; Carr, 3; Burks, 7; Johnson, 6; Hill, 7.

(B. GAME.)



Elba's Marchello Reed (22) pulls down a rebound as teammate Mason Gulley closes in to help. The Tigers clinched the number two spot in the area last week with a big 65-42 win over Straughn.

High School ROUNDBALL ROUNDUP

Kinston Bulldogs zap Zion Chapel 61-42

The Elba Tiger hosted the second ranked Abbeville Yellow Jackets Friday night in their area encounter of the season and saw their area title hopes dashed as the high-powered Jackets ran away and to a 102-73 win.

The loss dropped Elba's record to 6-9, while Abbeville improved its record to 22-2 with the win.

Abbeville jumped on the Tigers from the opening tip and opened up a quick 14-4 lead. Kyle English scored 20 points including 15 in the final four minutes of the game, lead Elba, while Marcus Henderson added 17 and Marchello Reed scored 13. Victor Lawrence scored 22 points to pace Abbeville and Deshawn Danzey added 16.

A Elba's lead grew to 30-5 with 2:07 left on the clock, and even though Elba stayed a late rally and outscored Abbeville by 10, the Jackets cut the lead to 53-51 with 3:01 left in the half.

Abbeville answered with a 7-0 run to stretch its lead back up to 53-53 with 1:58 left, and at intermission the Jackets went in with a 57-36 lead.

The fast-paced offensive shootout slowed early in the third quarter as both teams managed to score only seven points over the first four minutes of the stanza. Abbeville caught its wind midway through the quarter, however, and closed out the quarter with a 14-3 run to blow the game open as Abbeville's lead went to 78-48 with only one quarter left.

Kinston Lady Bulldogs fall in overtime 54-45

The Kinston Bulldogs kept their area title hopes alive Friday night with a big 60-55 road win over the Arion Purple Cats. The Bulldogs, which connected on 23 of 41 free-throws, were led in scoring by Jeremy Driver with 20 points, while Lee Whigham added 16 and J.T. Wiggins scored 12. Joe Lightner scored 15 points to lead Arion.

Kinston Bulldogs cage Purple Cats 60-55

The Kinston Bulldogs were outscored 9-0 in overtime Friday night in a 54-55 loss to the Arion Lady Cats, in Arion. Ramsi Smith scored 13 points to lead Kinston, while Samantha Wambles and Elizabeth Farris both added 12 points. Sherlyn Liprot scored 20 points to lead Arion.

New Brockton falls to Wicksburg 55-39

The New Brockton Gamecocks hosted the Wicksburg Panthers in a Saturday night area match-up and came out on the short end of a 55-39 decision. Rishawn Foster scored 12 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Ben Booth scored 13 points to lead the Panther.

(A. GAME.)

The Elba B team Tigers were simply no match as they fell to the Abbeville Yellow Jackets 53-23. Lewis Johnson scored 7 points to lead Elba, while McArthur Hennan scored 18 for the Jackets.

Elba (53): Richards, 4; Knight, 2; Hemmick, 18; Jones, 8; McNair, 2; Crubbs, 6; Freeman, 5; Mills, 8.

Elba (23): Sutley, 1; Skinner, 2; Carr, 6; Cooks, 2; Allen, 2; Johnson, 7; Morris, 3.

(A. GAME.)

AREA TOURNAMENTS BEGIN NEXT WEEK...CHECK YOUR TEAM'S TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE RIGHT HERE IN THE ELBA CLIPPER SPORTS"

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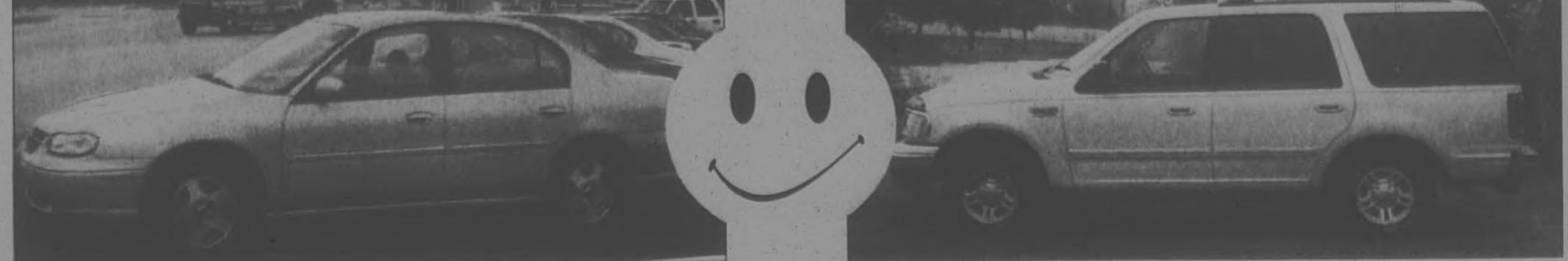
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2002 CHEVY MALIBU LS - program car

2000 FORD EXPEDITION XLT - 3rd seat - rear air - p w - tilt - cruise



2001 CHEV EX CAB - 4 X 2 AT-8 - only 19K miles - like new

2002 2500 CHEV 2500HD - crew cab-AT-8 4X2-must see

1994 NISSAN ALTIMA GXE - AT-4 - nice - great price !!



2002 MUSTANG - pw & t, tile, cruise, low mileage

2000 CHEV TRACKER 4 X 4- AT-4 - loaded - great buy

1998 NISSAN - reg cab - AT-4



1999 FORD EXPLORER XLS - p w & locks - tilt-cruise - AM/FMCD player

2001 CHEV PICK UP LS - reg cab- 4X2 - sharp - one owner - AT-8

2000 CHEV. MALIBU LS - local trade - leather - sun roof - loaded



2001 FORD 4 X 2 - super crew - leather - loaded - one owner

1999 FORD EXPLORER XLS - P W & L - tilt- cruise, AM-FM CD player



1990 FORD BRONCO - Eddie Bauer - hunter special

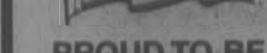
2000 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - Signature Series

2000 F-250 SUPERCAB XLT

2w drive - v-10 automatic - local trade

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